

What is claimed is:

1. A protector for a portable wireless communication device that has a housing and a keypad, said protector comprising:

a cover pivotally attached to the housing such that said cover is pivotable from a first position wherein it covers the keypad to another position wherein the keypad is exposed; and antenna attached to said cover.

2. The protector of claim 1 wherein said cover is pivotally attached to the housing by adhesive tape.

3. The protector of claim 1 wherein said antenna is laminated to said cover.

4. The protector of claim 3 wherein said antenna is fabricated from a metal tape.

5. The protector of claim 4 wherein said antenna is fabricated from aluminum tape.

6. The protector of claim 1 wherein said antenna comprises conductive particulate material attached to said

cover.

7. The protector of claim 6 wherein said conductive particulate material is embedded in said cover.

8. The protector of claim 1 wherein said cover is transparent.

9. The protector of claim 1 wherein said cover is translucent.

10. The protector of claim 1 further comprising an overlay layer covering at least a portion of said antenna.

11. The protector of claim 10 wherein said overlay layer covers at least a portion of said cover and is transparent.

12. The protector of claim 1 wherein said antenna is embedded in said cover.

13. The protector of claim 12 wherein said antenna comprises a metallic screen.

14. The protector of claim 1 wherein said cover

comprises:

a first cover portion;  
a second cover portion; and  
a flexible joint interconnecting the first cover portion  
with the second cover portion.

15. The protector of claim 1 wherein the housing has a first color and said cover has said first color.

16. The protector of claim 1 wherein said cover has indicia provided thereon.

17. The protector of claim 1 wherein said cover only covers a portion of said keypad when said cover is in said first position.

18. The protector of claim 1 further comprising a biaser between said cover and a portion of the housing.

19. The protector of claim 1 wherein said cover is sized relative to the housing such that when the cover is pivoted to said another position, said cover supports the housing in an angular orientation on a surface.

20. A portable wireless communication device, comprising:  
a housing;  
a keypad supported on said housing;  
a cover movably attached to said housing; and  
an antenna member attached to said cover.

21. The portable wireless communication device of claim 20 wherein said cover is pivotally attached to said housing.

22. The portable wireless communication device of claim 21 wherein said cover is pivotally attached to said housing by adhesive tape.

23. The portable wireless communication device of claim 20 wherein said antenna is fabricated from a metallic tape.

24. The portable wireless communication device of claim 21 wherein said cover is transparent.

25. The portable wireless communication device of claim 18 wherein said cover is pivotally attached to said housing by a hinge assembly comprising:

at least one boss on said housing;  
at least one other boss on said cover; and

a hinge pin extending between said at least one boss and said at least one other boss.

26. The portable wireless communication device of claim 20 wherein said antenna member is embedded in said cover.

27. The portable wireless communication device of claim 26 wherein said antenna comprises a metallic screen.

28. A portable wireless communication device, comprising:  
a housing;  
signal-receiving circuitry in said housing;  
signal-transmitting circuitry in said housing; and  
an antenna movably attached to said housing and  
capacitively coupled to said signal-receiving circuitry and  
said signal-transmitting circuitry.

29. The portable wireless communication device of claim 28 wherein said antenna comprises a metallic tape attached to a portion of said housing adjacent to said signal-transmitting and said signal-receiving circuitry, said metallic tape further attached to a cover movably affixed to said housing.

30. The portable wireless communication device of claim

28 wherein said cover is pivotally attached to said housing.

31. The portable wireless communication device of claim 21 wherein said cover comprises a first cover and a second cover pivotally interconnected to said first cover.

32. A portable wireless communication device, comprising:  
a housing member;  
signal-receiving means within said housing member;  
signal-transmitting means within said housing member;  
means for activating said signal-transmitting means, said means for activating supported by said housing member;

means for selectively covering an exposed portion of said means for activating; and

means for enhancing a transmitting ability of said signal-transmitting means to transmit a signal, said means for enhancing further enhancing a receiving ability of said signal-receiving means to receive another signal, said means for enhancing coupled to said means for selectively covering.

33. The portable wireless communication device of claim 32 wherein said means for enhancing comprises antenna means coupled to said means for selectively covering and said housing.

34. A method of protecting at least a portion of a portion of a keypad supported in the housing of a portable wireless communication device, said method comprising movably affixing a cover to the housing such that the cover may be selectively moved from a first position wherein at least a portion of the keypad is covered to another position wherein the at least a portion of the keypad is exposed.

35. The method of claim 34 wherein the portable wireless communication device has signal-transmitting circuitry and signal-receiving circuitry therein and wherein said method comprises enhancing an ability of the signal-receiving circuitry to receive signals and enhancing an ability of the signal transmitting circuitry to transmit signals.

36. The method of claim 35 wherein said enhancing comprises capacitively coupling an antenna to the signal-receiving circuitry and said signal-transmitting circuitry.

37. The method of claim 36 wherein said antenna is coupled to the cover and to the housing.